

# NET PROFIT





\$1

# porpoises

SOME PEOPLE CALL THEM  
DOLPHINS - OTHERS CON-  
FUSE THEM WITH THE  
DOLPHIN FISH. SOME  
PEOPLE CONSIDER THEM  
AS INTELLIGENT AS PEOPLE  
- BUT TO THE TUNA INDUSTRY  
THEY ARE SIMPLY NET PROFIT.

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO THE  
GREAT ORDER OF MAMMALS CALLED  
CETACEA - PORPOISES, DOLPHINS,  
AND WHALES - AND TO THE PROCESS  
OF PUTTING PEOPLE AND PORPOISES  
BACK ON THE SAME WAVELENGTH.

THIS BOOK IS THE FIRST OF A PLANNED SERIES  
OF ECOMIX. IT WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY  
ALIX, AN EX-TUNA FISHERMAN, WHO PUT IT  
TOGETHER WITH JOAN OF PROJECT JONAH, STAN  
OF SAVE THE DOLPHIN, TOM, ANOTHER  
EX-TUNA FISHERMAN, AND MICHAEL J.  
AND SHELBY, WHO DESIGNED & DREW IT.  
LET US KNOW IF YOU LIKE IT.

## •NET PROFIT•

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A Non-Profit, tax-exempt,  
INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TO SAVE THE  
WHALES AND DOLPHINS.

# ONCE UPON A TIME...



**I**N THE 6TH CENTURY B.C., HERODOTUS TOLD THE FABLE OF ARION, LYRIC POET & MUSICIAN, RETURNING FROM SICILY TO CORINTH WITH RICHES GAINED BY HIS PROFESSION. THE VOYAGE WAS LONG, AND TO PASS THE TIME, HE WOULD PLAY TO THE PORPOISES ...

QUIETLY, NOW.







NOW! QUICK! GRAB THAT SEA CHEST. IT'S BULGING WITH GOLD

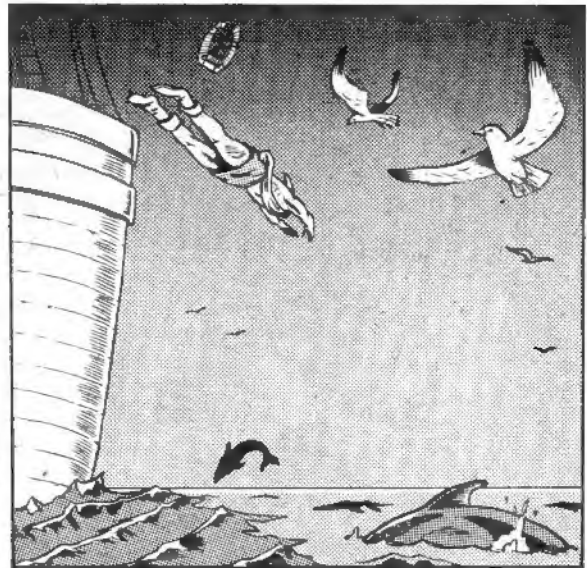
AND HIM? WE CAN'T LET HIM GET AWAY! USE YOUR KNIFE!



BEFORE YOU KILL ME - ONE MORE TUNE - I BESEECH YOU!

WHAT HARM CAN IT DO - LET HIM PLAY!

THE MUSIC DRIFTS OUT FROM THE BOAT AS THE PORPOISE SWIM EVER-CLOSER, UNTIL...



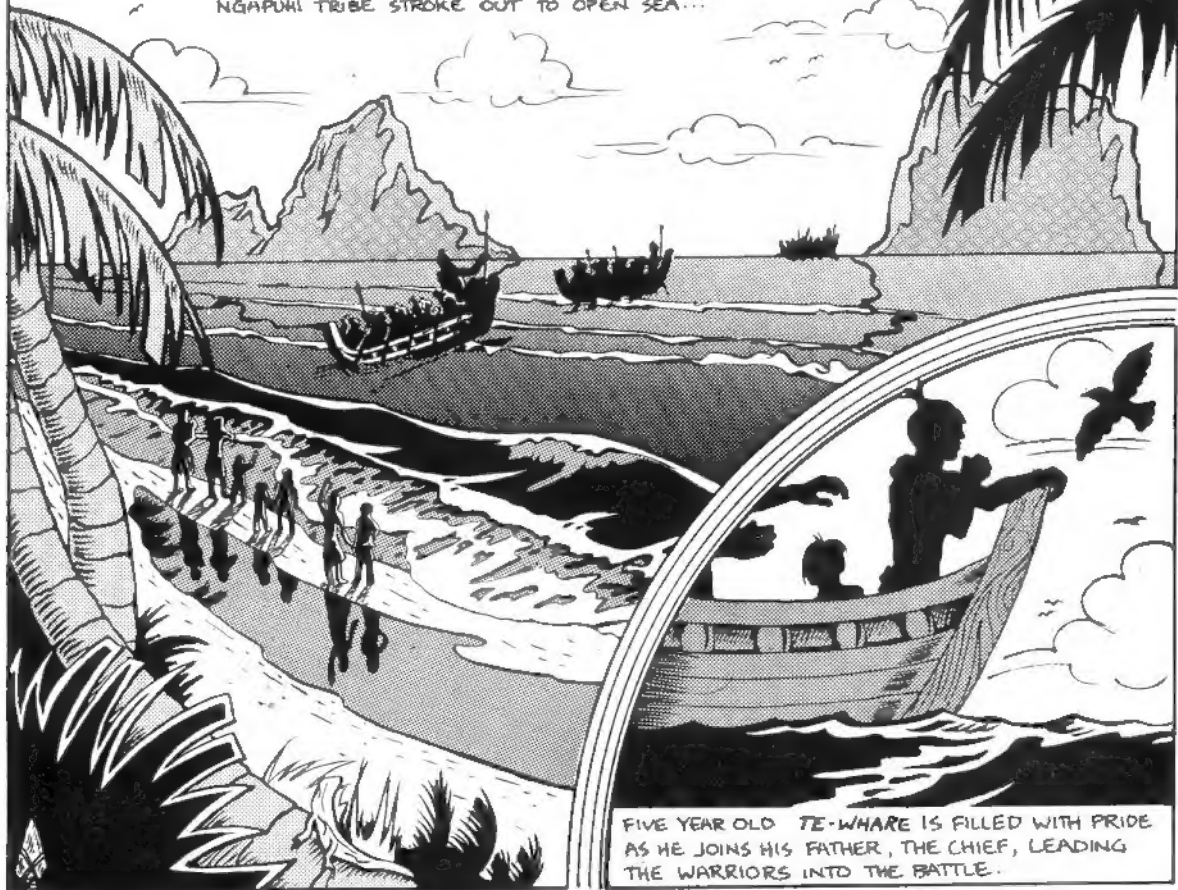
HIS PURSUERS WATCH IN VAIN AS ARION IS SPED AWAY ON THE CRESTS OF THE WAVES! JUST A FABLE PERHAPS, YET THE LORE OF THE SEA IS FULL OF SUCH REFERENCES TO THE CLOSE KINSHIP BETWEEN MAN & PORPOISE...

THE END

FAR FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN, POLYNESIAN LEGEND RECOUNTS THE

# TALE OF TE-WHARE

WARDRUMS STILL POUNDING IN THEIR EARS AS THE BLOOD  
POUNDS THRU THEIR VEINS, THE WARRIORS OF THE MAORI  
NGAPUHI TRIBE STROKE OUT TO OPEN SEA...



FIVE YEAR OLD TE-WHARE IS FILLED WITH PRIDE  
AS HE JOINS HIS FATHER, THE CHIEF, LEADING  
THE WARRIORS INTO THE BATTLE.

HIS PRIDE TURNS TO FEAR AS THE CAPTAIN OF  
THE LEAD CANOE DECIDES THAT HIS **ABSOLUTE**  
AUTHORITY ABOARD HIS VESSEL CAN BE USED TO  
PERMANENTLY END AN OLD QUARREL.

SEIZE THE CHIEF  
AND THE BOY!



I MAY DIE, BUT SO  
WILL MANY ABOARD  
YOUR VESSEL!



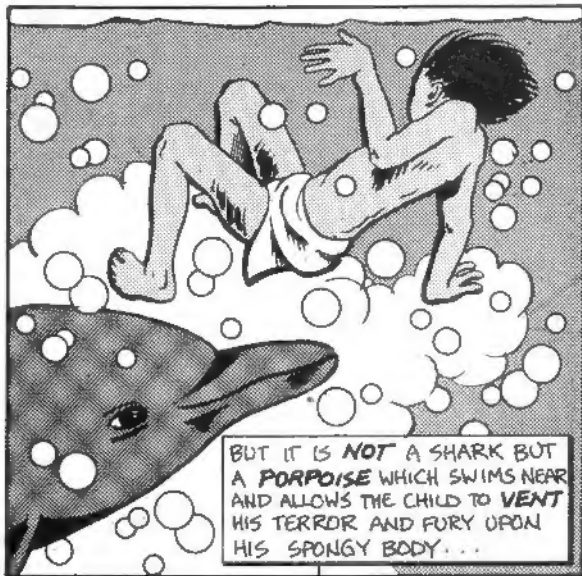
THEN WE MUST MAKE  
A **SACRIFICE** TO THE GODS  
TO STILL THE FIRES  
RAGING BETWEEN US.  
**TEWHARE** WILL DO!

AS THE GODS  
DECREED! SO TAKE  
HIM!



AS HIS SON IS  
THROWN FROM  
THE BOAT, THE  
CHIEF PRAYS TO  
THE GODS OF THE  
SEA TO HELP  
THE CHILD.

INTERROR TE-WHARE  
SEES AN OMINOUS  
FIN, SIGNIFYING A  
**BLOODY DEATH...**



BUT IT IS **NOT** A SHARK BUT  
A **PORPOISE** WHICH SWIMS NEAR  
AND ALLOWS THE CHILD TO VENT  
HIS TERROR AND FURY UPON  
HIS SPONGY BODY...

...UNTIL THE BOY IS **TOO TIRED** TO STRUGGLE, AND  
THEN, THE PORPOISE PUSHES HIS EXHAUSTED, BUT  
STILL ALIVE, CARGO TO THE NEAREST ISLAND...



...WHERE HE IS TO GROW  
INTO A **CHIEF** IN A STRANGE  
LAND... BUT THAT IS  
QUITE **ANOTHER STORY.**



END

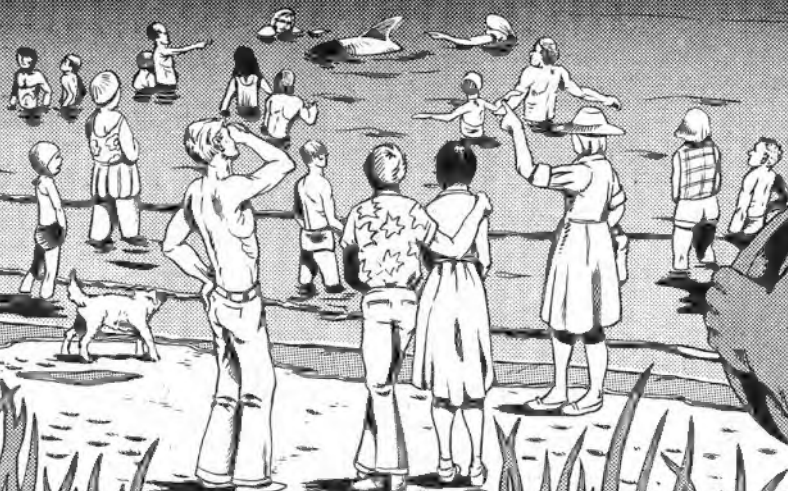


**N**OW IT'S 1955 AND A MAORI FISHERMAN, POSSIBLY A DESCENDANT OF TE-WHARE, IS ABOUT TO SEE PARTS OF THAT CHILDHOOD LEGEND COME TRUE...



AS THE WORLD THEN LEARNED, MUCH OF WHAT SKEPTICS DISMISS AS JUST STORIES ABOUT PORPOISES PROVES TO BE TRUE AS THE SMALL SEASIDE TOWN OF OPONONI, NEW ZEALAND IS BEFRIENDED BY...

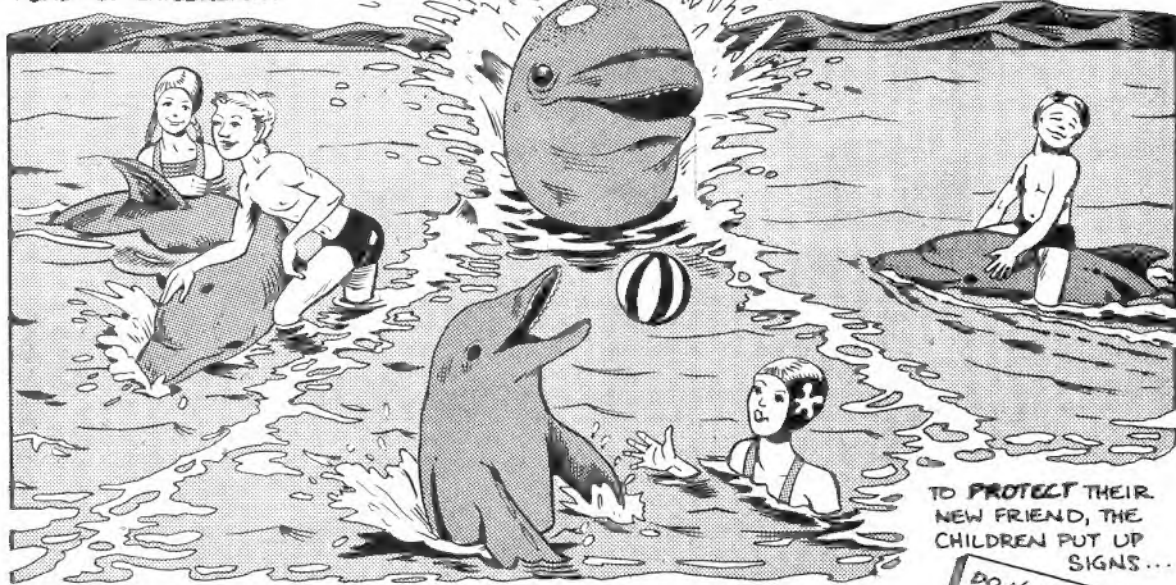
# OPO, THE PEOPLE'S PORPOISE





BY NEW YEARS 1956, OPONONI WAS THROGGED WITH VISITORS. TOTAL STRANGERS BECAME FRIENDS IN AN INSTANT, SHARING TALES OF THEIR EXPERIENCES WITH OPO. PEOPLE JAMMED THE BEACH, FLOCKING TO THE WATER WITH ALMOST RELIGIOUS FERVOR TO STROKE HER SKIN. AND OPO, SETTING THE GENTLE, FRIENDLY MOOD NEVER ONCE SNAPPED AT AN OUTSTRETCHED HAND.

OPO WAS ESPECIALLY FOND OF CHILDREN...



TO PROTECT THEIR NEW FRIEND, THE CHILDREN PUT UP SIGNS...

AND, REMEMBERING THAT IN THE PAST, SOME FOOLISH PEOPLE HAD SHOT AT PORPOISES—FOR FUN, OR THINKING THEY WERE SHARKS, —OPO'S ADULT ADMIRERS PETITIONED THE NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT TO PASS FORMAL PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION. IT WAS GRANTED, AND BECAME LAW IN MARCH, 1956.

BUT, FOR OPO, PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION CAME TOO LATE! THE NEXT DAY, OPO WAS FOUND DEAD IN A TIDEPOOL. NO ONE KNOWS IF HER DEATH WAS ACCIDENTAL OR INTENTIONAL, BUT, THAT NIGHT, THE WHOLE TOWN OF OPONONI MOURNED THE LOSS OF A FRIEND.

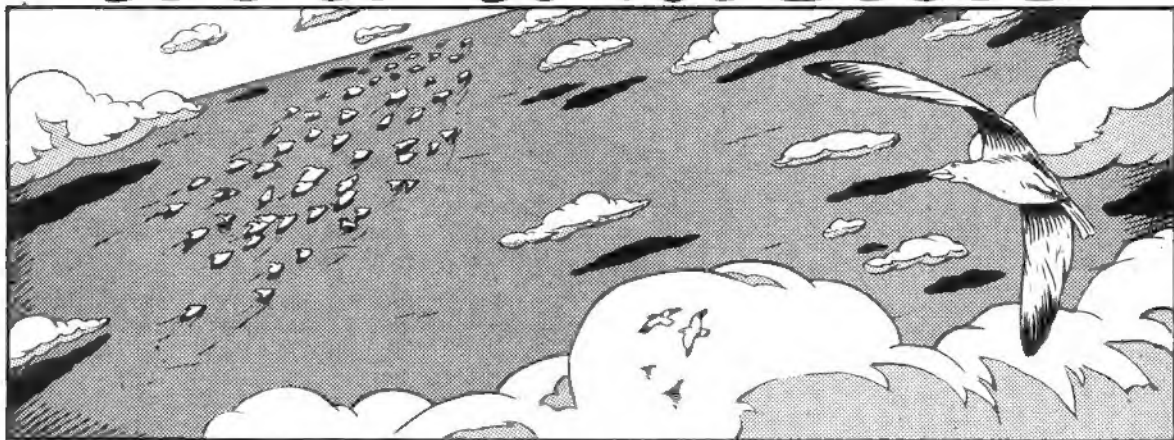


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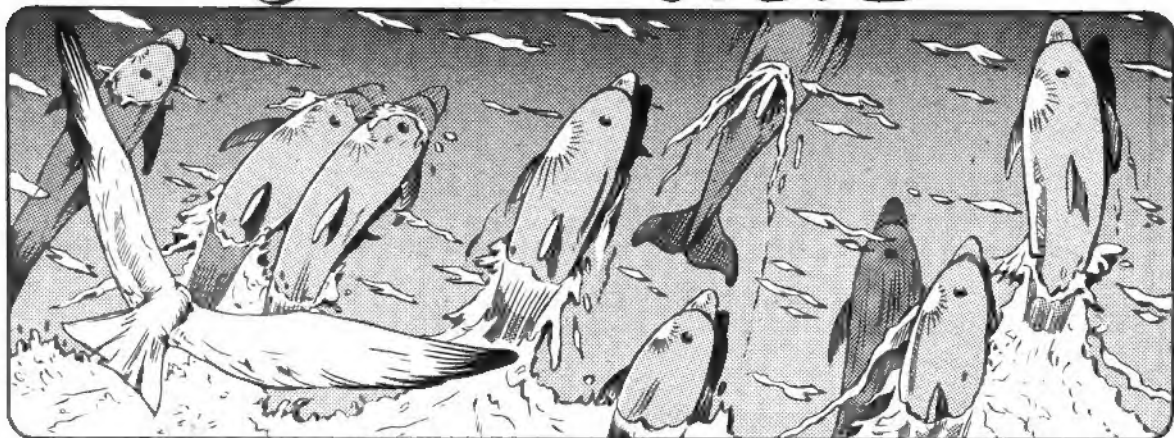
"TO THE DOLPHIN ALONE, BEYOND ALL OTHERS, NATURE HAS GRANTED WHAT THE BEST PHILOSOPHERS SEEK: FRIENDSHIP TO NO ADVANTAGE. THOUGH IT HAS NO NEED AT ALL OF ANY MAN, YET IT IS A GENIAL FRIEND TO ALL, AND HAS HELPED MANY."  
— PLUTARCH



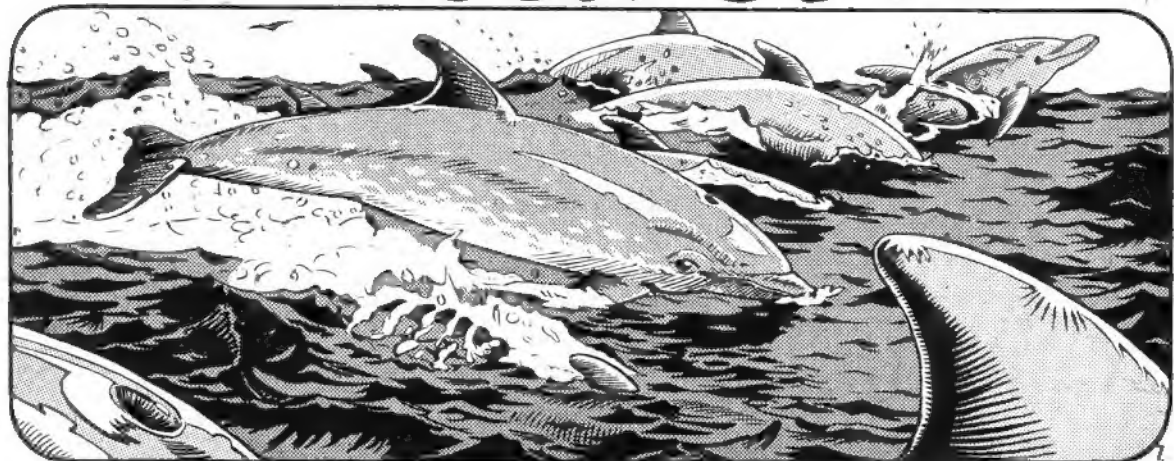
# NOW IMAGINE

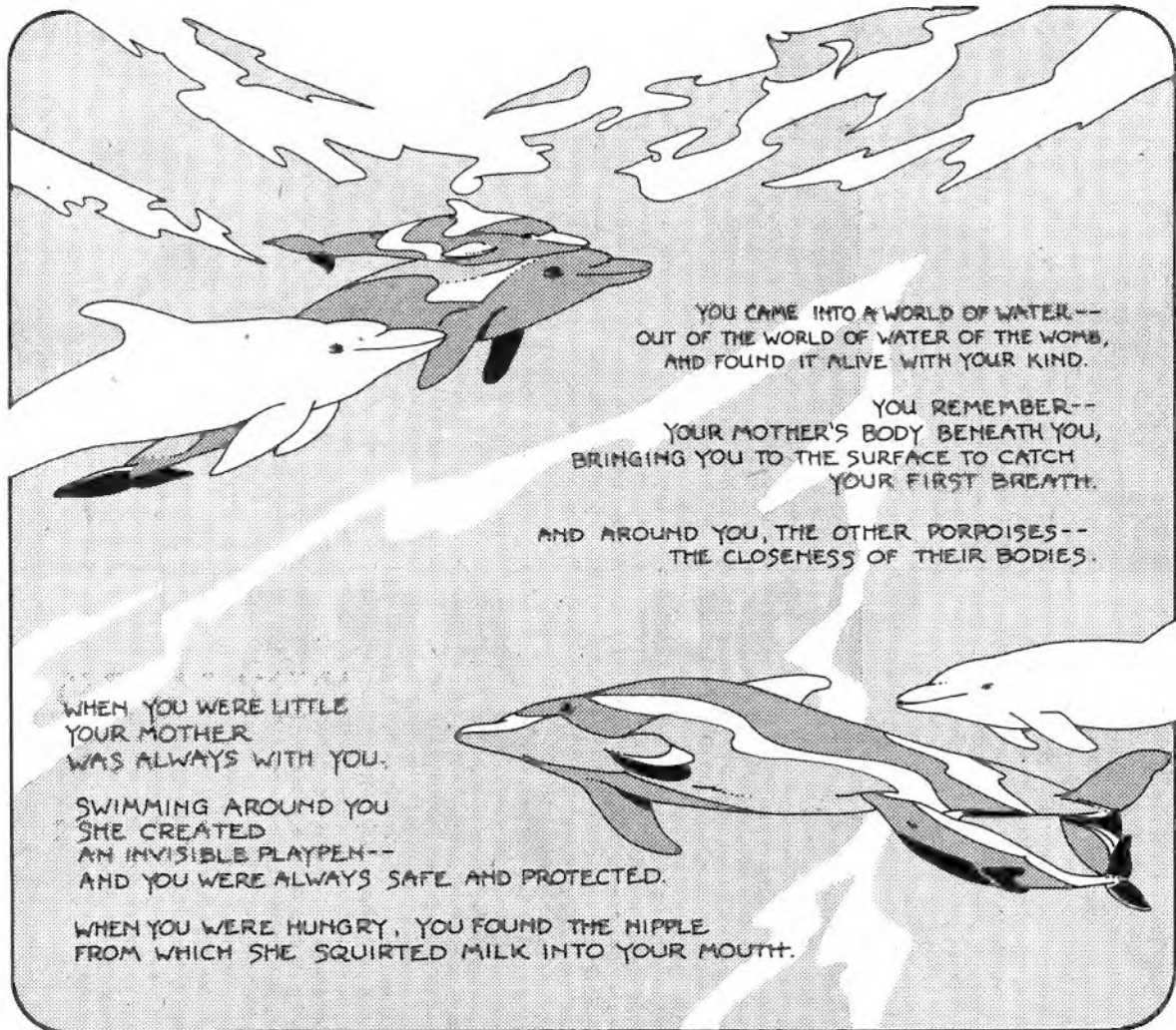


## YOU ARE



## A PORPOISE





YOU CAME INTO A WORLD OF WATER--  
OUT OF THE WORLD OF WATER OF THE WOMB,  
AND FOUND IT ALIVE WITH YOUR KIND.

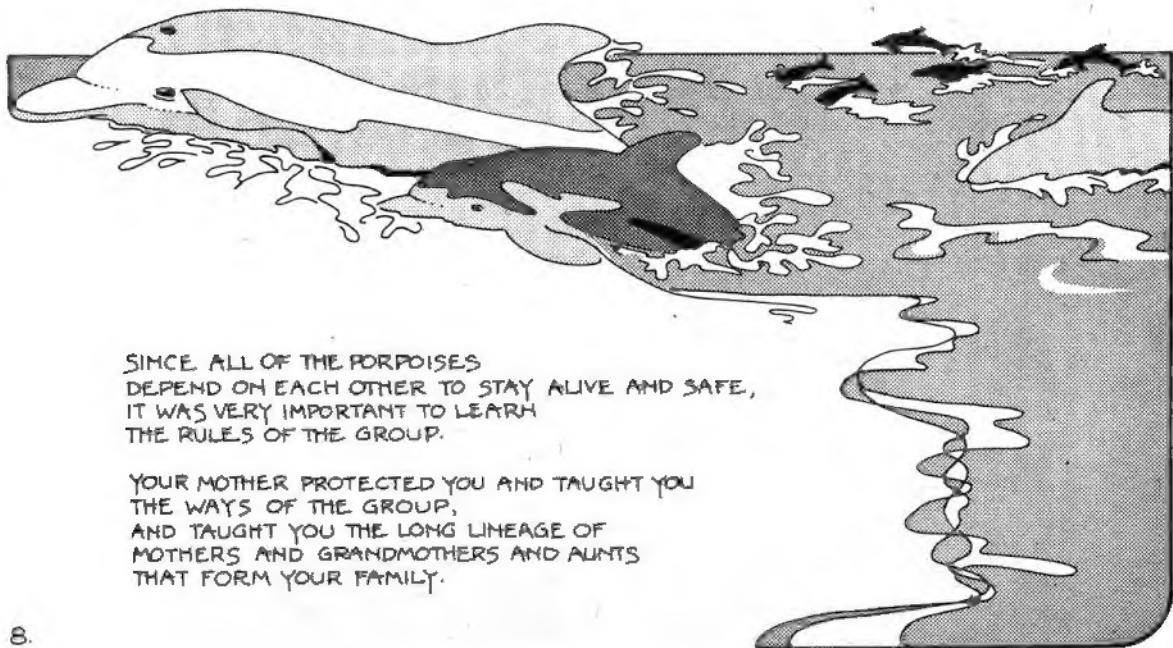
YOU REMEMBER--  
YOUR MOTHER'S BODY BENEATH YOU,  
BRINGING YOU TO THE SURFACE TO CATCH  
YOUR FIRST BREATH.

AND AROUND YOU, THE OTHER PORPOISES--  
THE CLOSENESS OF THEIR BODIES.

WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE  
YOUR MOTHER  
WAS ALWAYS WITH YOU.

SWIMMING AROUND YOU  
SHE CREATED  
AN INVISIBLE PLAYPEN--  
AND YOU WERE ALWAYS SAFE AND PROTECTED.

WHEN YOU WERE HUNGRY, YOU FOUND THE NIPPLE  
FROM WHICH SHE SQUIRTED MILK INTO YOUR MOUTH.



SINCE ALL OF THE PORPOISES  
DEPEND ON EACH OTHER TO STAY ALIVE AND SAFE,  
IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO LEARN  
THE RULES OF THE GROUP.

YOUR MOTHER PROTECTED YOU AND TAUGHT YOU  
THE WAYS OF THE GROUP,  
AND TAUGHT YOU THE LONG LINEAGE OF  
MOTHERS AND GRANDMOTHERS AND AUNTS  
THAT FORM YOUR FAMILY.

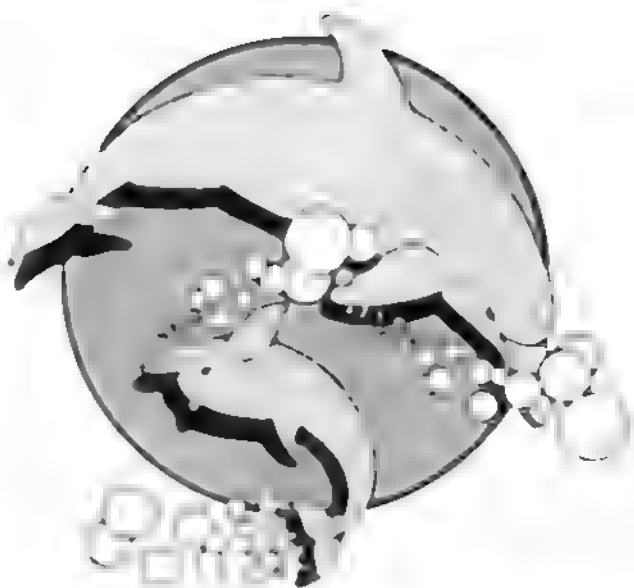


YOUR MOTHER WAS VERY STRICT  
ABOUT MANNERS  
IF YOU TOOK A NIP AT THE WRONG  
UNCLE, OR CHASED THE WRONG COUSIN,  
SHE WOULD WOP YOU WITH  
HER STRONG FLUKES

IF YOU DID ANYTHING THAT WOULD  
ENDANGER THE GROUP,  
YOU WERE PUNISHED

YOUR MOTHER COULD HIT HARD  
IF SHE WANTED,  
AND IT HURT

GRADUALLY, YOU LEARNED TO  
TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN  
THE PORPOISES IN YOUR POD



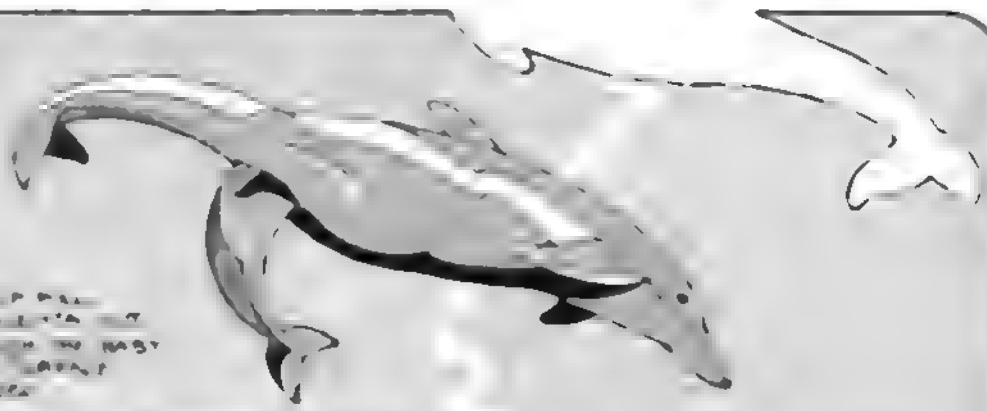
POD  
MEMBERS

YOU ARE NEVER  
ALONE AND ALWAYS FEEL  
THE STRONG PRESENCE OF THE GROUP  
YOU WATCH THE MOTHER PORPOISE  
FROM A SHORT DISTANCE  
ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO HELP



THEY HELP EACH  
OTHER TO STAY  
SAFE AND TO RISE  
TO THE SURFACE  
TO BREATHE

IF LARGE ANIMALS COME NEAR, THE GROUP  
THE AUNTIES AND UNCLES  
HELP DRIVE THEM AWAY



THE WAVES ARE YOUR TOYS

YOU LEAP HIGH OUT OF THE WATER,  
SPINNING AND SOARING IN THE AIR,  
TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS  
HOW GOOD YOU FEEL

YOUR SKIN IS VERY SENSITIVE—  
THE WAVES AND BUBBLES FEEL GOOD  
ALL OVER YOUR BODY.

YOU CAN MAKE YOUR SKIN  
LOOSER OR TIGHTER  
SO IT WON'T DRAG YOU BACK  
WHEN YOU SWIM.

SOMETIMES YOU GO  
VERY FAST  
JUST FOR FUN

YOU PLAY WITH YOUR FRIENDS  
RUBBING BODIES,  
NIPPING FLUKES AND FLIPPERS

AND SHE STROKES YOU BACK.  
SHE IS VERY GENTLE TO YOU.

YOU PLAY AT LOVE MAKING WITH  
CHASING AND STROKING EACH OTHER.





THE OCEAN IS FULL OF THINGS TO PLAY WITH  
— PIECES OF SEAWEED, FLOATING BOARDS

YOU PLAY CATCH OR KEEP AWAY  
— BUT YOU ARE ALWAYS CAREFUL  
NOT TO TAKE ANYTHING  
BEING USED BY ANOTHER PURPOSE.

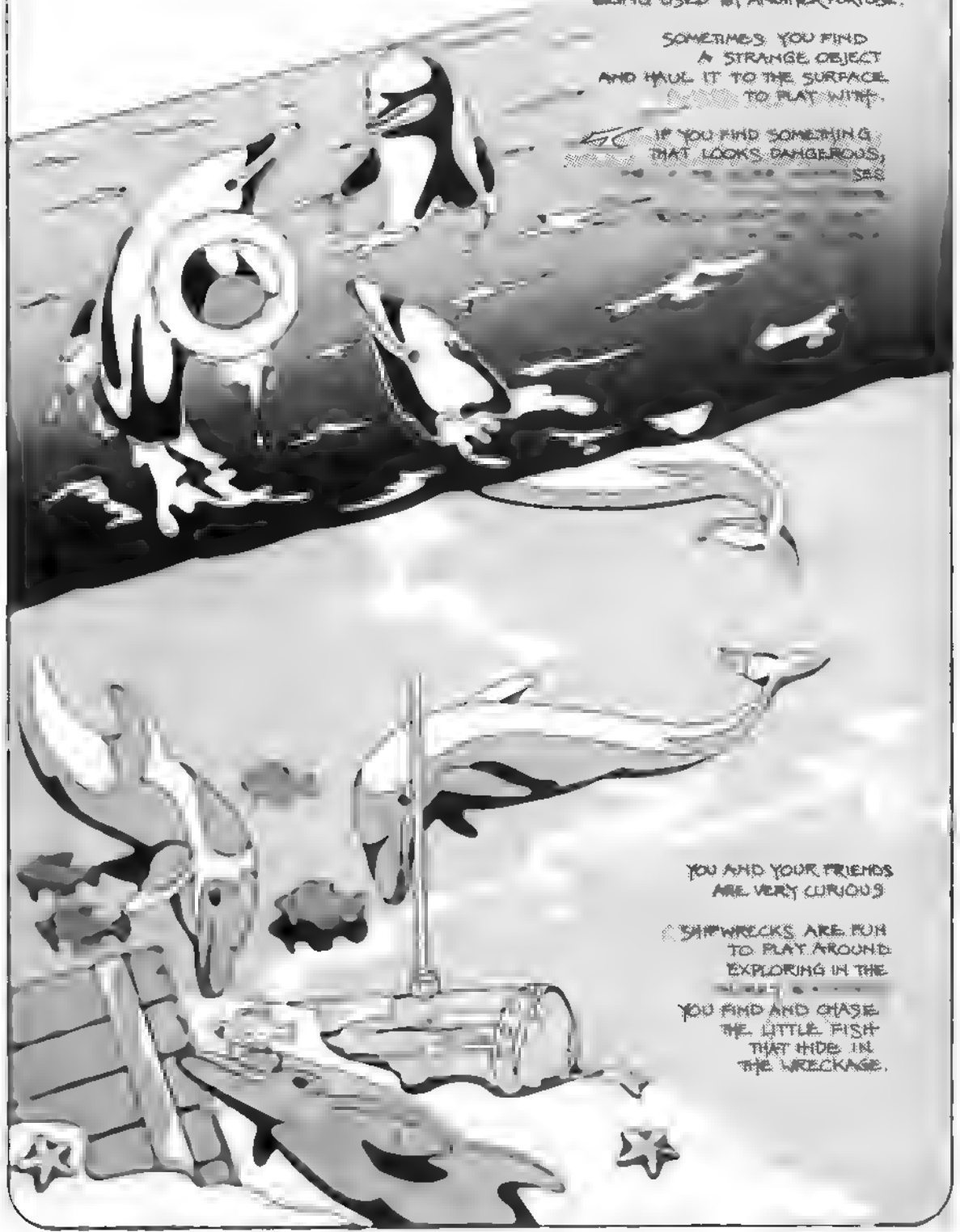
SOMETIMES YOU FIND  
A STRANGE OBJECT  
AND HAUL IT TO THE SURFACE  
TO PLAY WITH.

IF YOU FIND SOMETHING  
THAT LOOKS DANGEROUS,  
SEE

YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS  
ARE VERY CURIOUS

SHIPWRECKS ARE FUN  
TO PLAY AROUND  
EXPLORING IN THE

YOU FIND AND CHASE  
THE LITTLE FISH  
THAT HIDE IN  
THE WRECKAGE.






YOU REST IN GREAT FORMATIONS  
WITH THE OTHER PORPOISES.

YOU SLEEP WITH  
ONE SIDE OF YOUR BRAIN AT A TIME.  
WHILE THE OTHER SIDE  
IS AWAKE.  
THAT WAY, YOU NEVER  
GO TO SLEEP  
COMPLETELY, AND FORGET WHERE

YOUR RESTING GROUP SWIMS  
IN AN ENORMOUS CIRCLE IN THE OCEAN.  
THERE ARE ALWAYS PORPOISES  
ON THE EDGE OF THE CIRCLE WITH  
THE OUTSIDE EYE OPEN,  
LOOKING FOR DANGER.



ON LONG TRIPS YOU TRAVEL IN LONG LINES BREATHING IN TIME WITH YOUR COMPANIONS, AND  
STAYING NEAR THE SURFACE AT A STEADY PACE TO KEEP FROM TIRING.



IN STORMS  
YOU STAY BENEATH THE SURFACE  
AND WAIT FOR THE  
BECAUSE THE WAVES ARE RAGING.

YOU TIME YOUR BREATHING  
VERY CAREFULLY  
YOU  
UP TO THE  
SURFACE  
AT THE RIGHT TIME TO BREATHE.



THEY HADN'T SAID ANYTHING  
THEY HADN'T SAID ANYTHING  
AS THEY WENT BACK AND FORTH, AND  
SHE, AS USUAL, HADN'T SAID ANYTHING  
AFTER ALL.

BY JUDITH, THE SILENT APPROACH OF THE ALBATROSS  
HAD BEEN THERE FOR SOME  
TIME, BUT SHE HADN'T SAID ANYTHING.

THEY HADN'T SAID ANYTHING,  
SHE HADN'T SAID ANYTHING,  
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THEY HADN'T SAID ANYTHING -  
A SILENCE -  
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YOU CAN ALSO USE YOUR SONAR TO SEE  
INSIDE YOUR FRIENDS—LIKE X-RAY VISION.

YOU CAN SEE THEIR BLOOD FLOWING  
AND THE AIR SPACES INSIDE THEIR BODIES.  
YOU CAN TELL IF SOMEONE IS SICK,  
OR RECOGNIZE THEIR MOODS  
BY SOUNDING THEIR BODIES.

YOU REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE TINY AND  
HUNGRY AND YOUR MOTHER  
TO GET RID OF GAS BUBBLES  
SHE HAD SEEN FORMING IN YOUR STOMACH.



YOU CAN ALSO TELL HOW YOUR FRIENDS FEEL  
BY WATCHING THEIR BODIES.  
WHEN THEY MAKE LOVE,  
THE SHAPE THEY MAKE IS VERY EXCITING.




AND YOU CAN TELL A LOT ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS BY WATCHING THEIR BODIES.  
WHEN THEY MAKE LOVE, THE SHAPE THEY MAKE IS VERY EXCITING.

UNDERSTAND ALL THAT THEY SAY





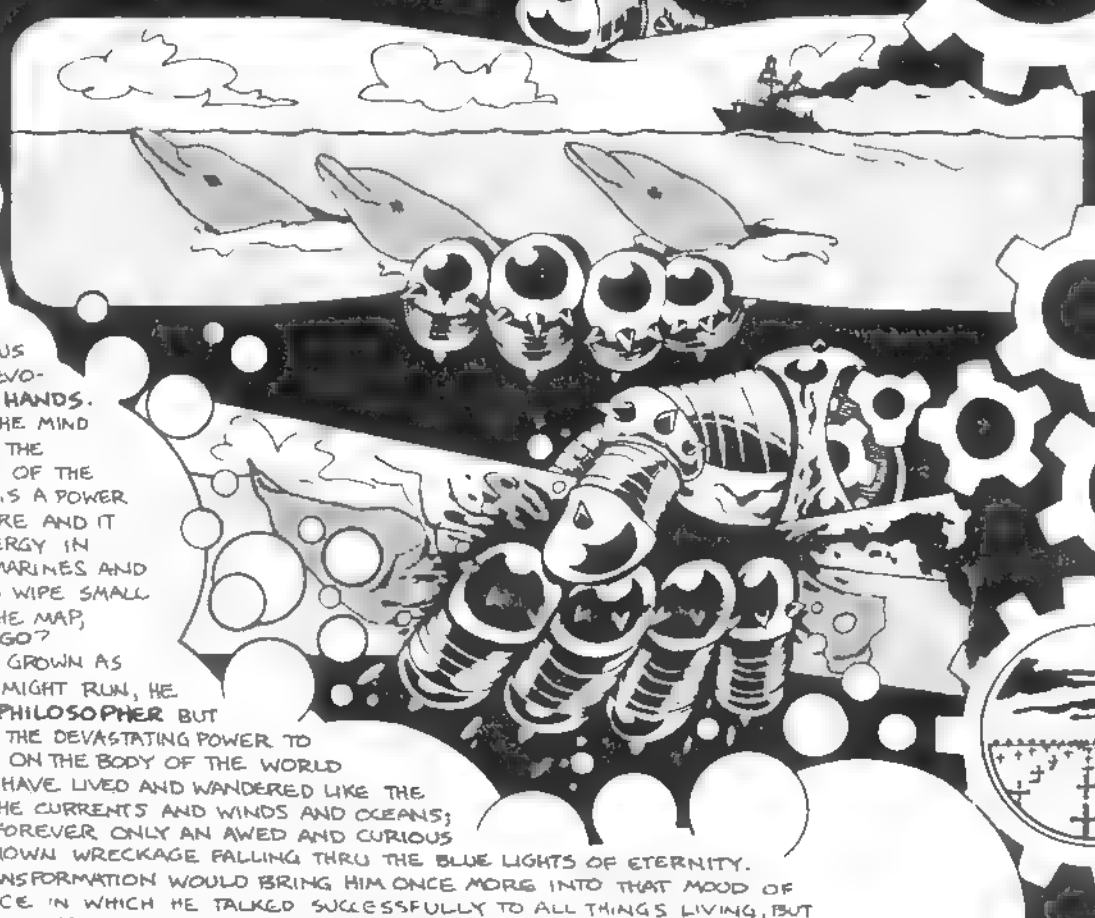


LIFE FELT GOOD  
TO YOU AND THERE  
WAS LITTLE TO FEAR  
STAYING WITH THE  
GROUP KEPT YOU  
SAFE AND HAPPY..



... AND THEN CAME MAN!

### PORPOISES:



ARE THEY AS SMART  
AS MAN? MAYBE NOT  
BUT THEY CERTAINLY  
AREN'T AS DUMB AS WE  
ARE.. MAYBE THEY'RE  
REALLY SMARTER THAN US  
BECAUSE OF A SIMPLE EVO-  
LUTIONARY FLUKE-NO HANDS.  
NO HANDS TO DIVERT THE MIND  
FROM DREAMING AND THE  
AWESOME POSSIBILITIES OF THE  
INNER EYE. IF THERE IS A POWER  
OF INTELLIGENCE THERE AND IT  
CAN'T EXPAND ITS ENERGY IN  
BUILDING POLARIS SUBMARINES AND  
DEVISING SCHEMES TO WIPE SMALL  
ASIAN NATIONS OFF THE MAP,  
THEN WHERE DOES IT GO?

IF MAN'S HANDS HAD GROWN AS  
FLUKES, THE MORAL MIGHT RUN, HE  
WOULD STILL BE A PHILOSOPHER BUT  
HE WOULD NOT HAVE THE DEVASTATING POWER TO  
WREAK HIS THOUGHT ON THE BODY OF THE WORLD  
INSTEAD, HE WOULD HAVE LIVED AND WANDERED LIKE THE  
PORPOISE, HIS HOME THE CURRENTS AND WINDS AND OCEANS;  
INTELLIGENT, BUT FOREVER ONLY AN AWED AND CURIOUS  
OBSERVER OF UNKNOWN WRECKAGE FALLING THRU THE BLUE LIGHTS OF ETERNITY.  
PERHAPS SUCH A TRANSFORMATION WOULD BRING HIM ONCE MORE INTO THAT MOOD OF  
CHILDHOOD INNOCENCE IN WHICH HE TALKED SUCCESSFULLY TO ALL THINGS LIVING, BUT  
HAD NO POWER AND NO URGE TO HARM. IT WOULD BREAK, PERHAPS, THE LONG LONELINESS  
THAT HAS MADE MAN A FREQUENT TERROR AND ABOMINATION, EVEN TO HIMSELF.

(INSPIRED BY LOREN EISLEY)

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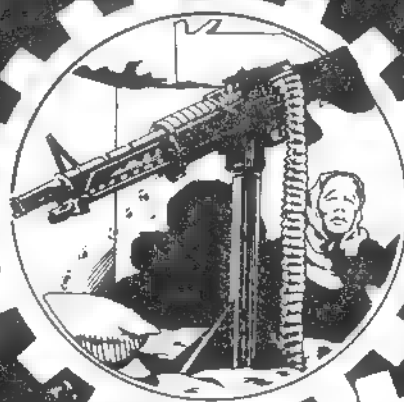
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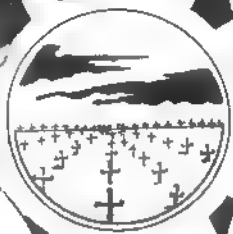
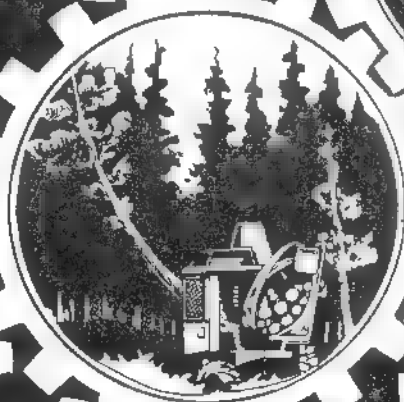
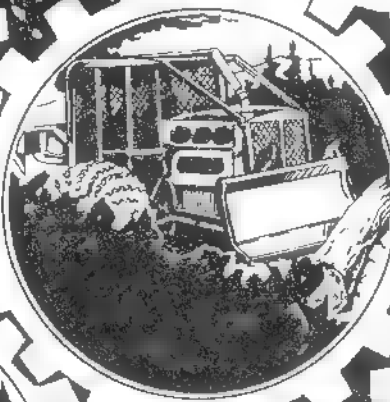
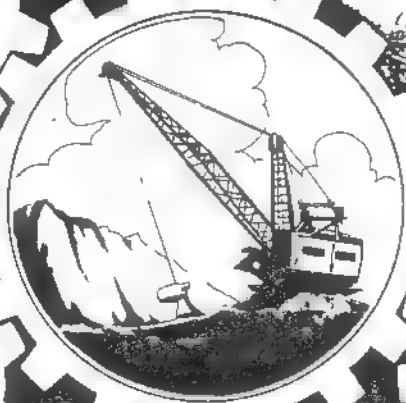
(INSPIRED BY LOREN EISLEY)

OF ALL THE MONSTERS,  
REAL OR UNREAL, NONE  
CAN COMPARE TO MAN YES,  
HUMAN BEINGS, BLINDED BY GREED  
AND THE POWER OF THEIR MA-  
CHINES. WITHOUT THESE MACHINES  
MEN CAN DO LITTLE, BUT WITH  
THEIR HELP, HE BECOMES A  
DEVASTATING MONSTER OF  
PLANETARY PROPORTIONS.

BUT WHO WOULD EVER SUS-  
PECT A TUNA FISHERMAN?



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BUT WHO WOULD EVER SUS-  
PECT A TUNA FISHERMAN?





A TRUE CONFESSION—THE FACES HAVE  
BEEN ALTERED, BUT EVERYTHING ELSE  
IS THE DISGUSTINGLY REAL THING



# HOW I BECAME A HORRIBLE

# PORPOISE-KILLING MONSTER



IT ALL BEGAN  
BACK IN 1970.

TUNA FISHING  
IS A ROUGH AND  
DANGEROUS JOB—  
SURE YOU WANT IT?

(WHERE DO I SIGN?)

DOWN HERE

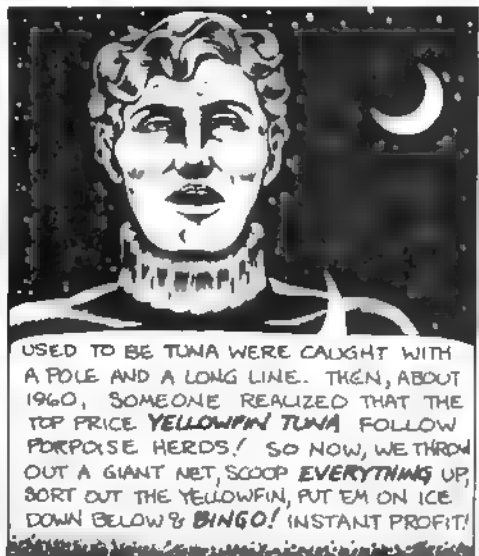
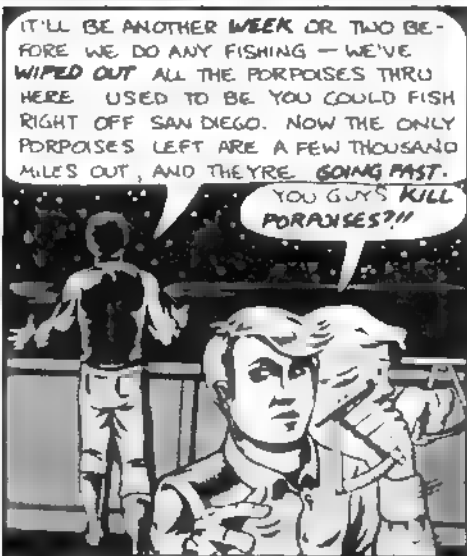
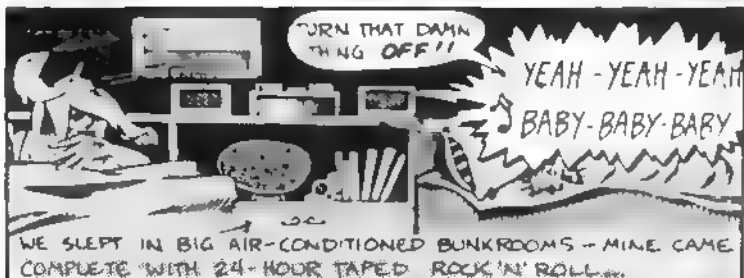
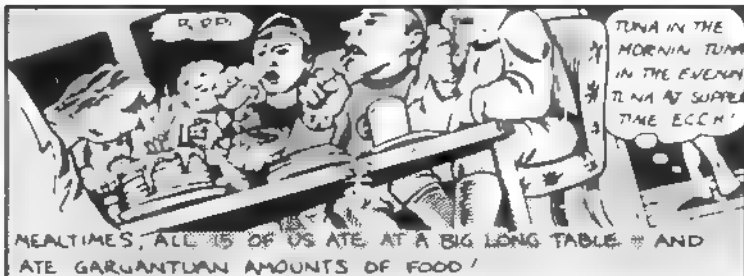
HOT SPIT!  
WHAT AN  
AMAZING  
BITE!

I'LL HAVE LOTS  
OF GIRLFRIENDS  
WHEN I GET  
BACK

AT LAST! I'M A  
FISHERMAN! I HAVE  
BIG MUSCLES FROM THE  
WORK! A DREAM  
FULFILLED!

THE NEXT MORNING WE SET  
OUT FROM SAN DIEGO.

I WAS REALLY  
IMPRESSED  
BY THE BIG  
ENGINES AND  
MACHINES—  
AT FIRST...



AFTER ABOUT 3 WEEKS OF EATING AND SLEEPING, WE GOT TO THE FISHING GROUNDS. MY FRIEND HAD BEEN RIGHT - ALTHOUGH THEY CALLED IT "FISHING FOR TUNA", WE WERE HUNTING THE FEW REMAINING HERDS OF PORPOISES.

DON'T SEE NUTHIN' YET..

HEBBE WE KILLED 'EM ALL ALREADY HA-HA-HA!



MY EYES WERE SO BAD (FROM READING COMICS) THAT I DIDN'T HAVE TO STAND WATCH AT THE BINOCULARS.

THE PORPOISES, HOWEVER, WEREN'T NEARLY SO FORTUNATE...



THERE THEY ARE!

EVERYBODY WAS EXCITED - THE CAPTAIN CLIMBED UP INTO THE CROWS NEST...

DROP THE SPEEDBOATS!

AH H H I FEEL LIKE GOD UP HERE!



CUT 'EM OFF

THREE SPEEDBOATS SET OUT IN FORMATION TO HERD THE PORPOISES AND TUNA INTO A COMPACT BUNCH.

THE CAPTAIN COULD DIRECT THEM BY RADIO

YA GOT 'EM RUNAWAY!

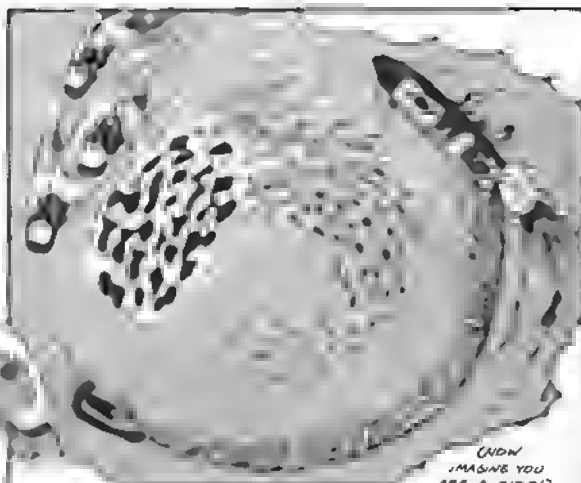
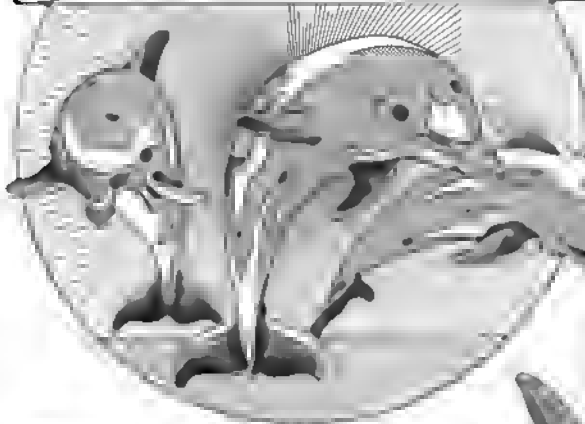
SEND 'EM TO THE LEFT- TO THE LEFT

YAHOO!

GOOD WORK- DRIVE 'EM IN!



THE PORPOISES DIDN'T PANIC, BUT CONTINUED TO SWIM IN THEIR ORDERLY GROUPS AS THEY WERE HERDED TOGETHER BY THE SPEEDBOATS. BY NOW, THEIR SONAR WAS USELESS, THEIR SENSITIVE HEARING PAINFULLY DROWNED OUT IN THE BOAT'S HIGH-PITCHED WHINE.



(NOW  
IMAGINE YOU  
ARE A BIRD)

THEN, WHEN THE HERD WAS **COMPACT** ENOUGH, A **SKIFF** WAS DROPPED WHICH CIRCLED AROUND THE PORPOISES AND TUNA TO **SET...**

## THE NET!

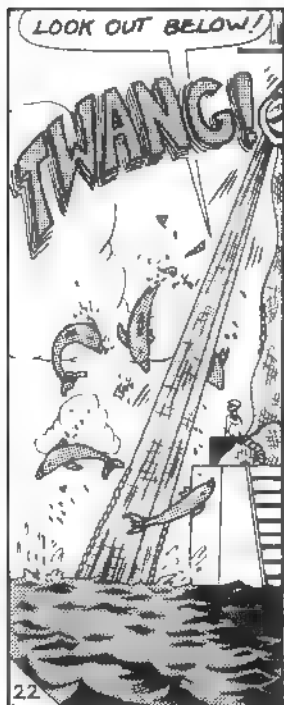
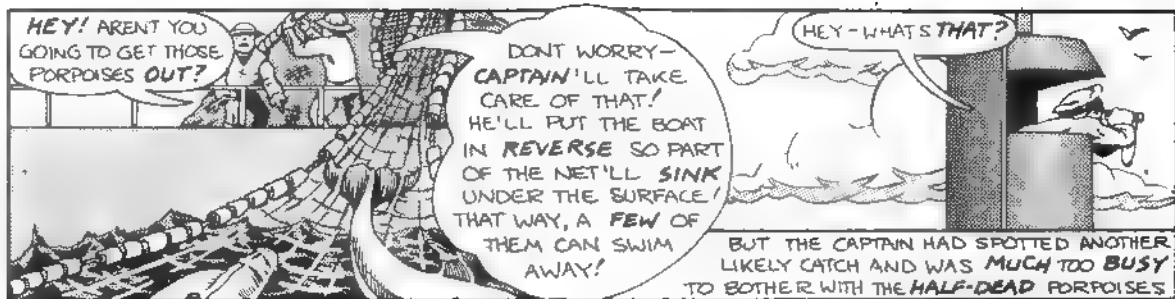


I WROTE THIS STORY AS A JOKE, INSPIRED BY AN INSTRUCTIVE  
EXERCISE IN LOGIC. I'M NOT AN ACTUAL TUNA EATING  
PORPOISE AS YOU CAN SEE BY MY (VERY) LAME DRESS IN THE PICTURE.

THE PORPOISES FORMED INTO A MOVING SPHERE OF  
SYNCHRONIZED SURVIVAL, ROTATING TO GIVE EACH  
SURVIVING MEMBER OF THE HERD A TURN TO BREATHE!




THE PORPOISES FORMED INTO A **MOVING SPHERE** OF  
SYNCHRONIZED SURVIVAL, **ROTATING** TO GIVE EACH  
SURVIVING MEMBER OF THE HERD A TURN TO **BREATHE!**









OMIGOD! I'M WALKING  
ON A FIELD OF  
DEAD BODIES!

PASS 'EM TO  
ME - SHARKS  
TAKE CARE OF EM!

IT'S EASIER AND  
CHEAPER TO SORT  
EM OUT NOW  
THAN LATER!




OUT AT ALL? THEY'RE DEAD,

SAYS WE SHOULDN'T BE KILLING  
THE PORPOISES, SO WE GET RID  
OF THEM OUT HERE!

USING SPECIALLY DESIGNED PORPOISE CHUTES

THAT'S A FEAST FOR  
THE SHARKS - THE  
BLOOD ATTRACTS  
THEM FROM MILES



AND IN THE SEA, REMNANTS  
OF FAMILIES FLUM FLUM  
SEARCHING FOR THEIR  
GROUP

FINALLY IT WAS OVER.  
ABOUT 200 PORPOISES,  
NOT COUNTING THOSE  
MAIMED & MISCARRIED.  
BUT WE HAD STASHED  
30 TONS OR SO OF  
TUNA IN OUR FREEZERS  
BELOW DECK.  
WHEN THE DINNER  
BELL RANG, I WASN'T  
VERY HUNGRY.

WHAT'S THE  
MATTER - DON'T  
YOU LIKE  
TUNA CASSEROLE



THAT NIGHT IN MY BUNK  
I IMAGINED I WAS  
A PORPOISE



AND WE MAY BE OUT  
HERE FOR MONTHS  
—THERE'S NO  
WAY OUT!!



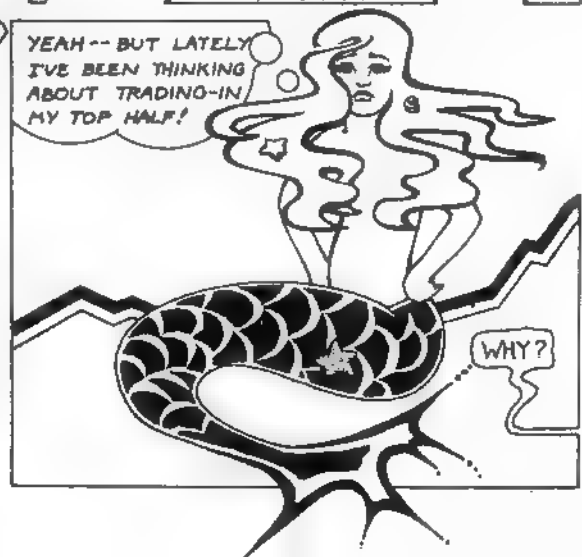
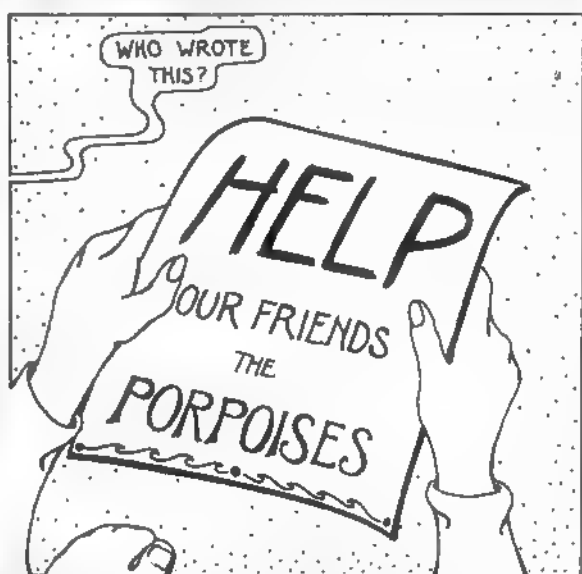
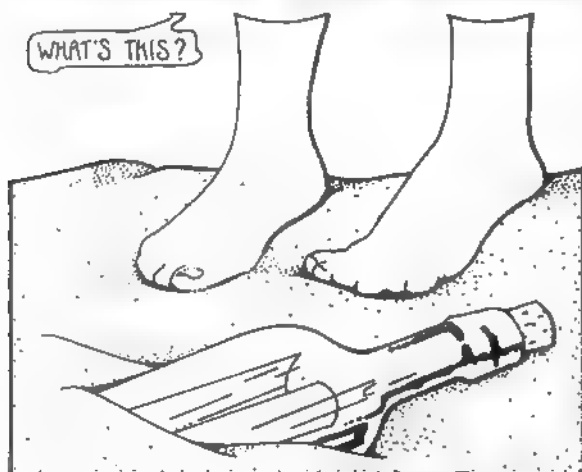
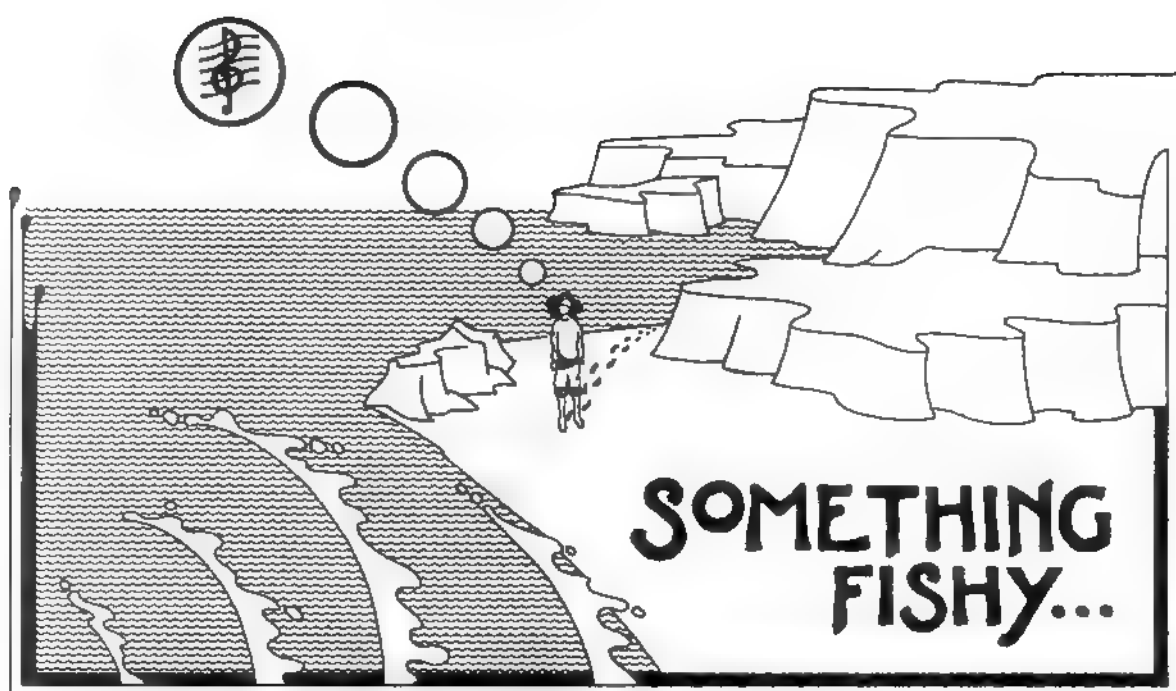
AND I BEGAN TO CRY.



THE MOST FRIGHTENING  
THING WAS, THAT FACED  
WITH NO ESCAPE, AFTER  
A FEW DAYS I BECAME  
NUMBED AND USED TO  
IT. AS I WORKED  
HARD AND FAST WITH  
THE REST OF THE CREW  
I REALIZED THAT I HAD  
BECOME YET ANOTHER  
**PORPOISE KILLING  
MONSTER!**

AND SADLY AND SECRETLY  
I HOPED THAT IF I  
EVER FELL OVERBOARD,  
NO PORPOISE WOULD  
SWIM TO MY AID...

**THE END**



I WAS OUT PLAYING WITH MY FRIENDS, THE PORPOISES, WHEN WHAMMO! THIS TUNA BOAT COMES ALONG AND ALMOST WIPES THEM OUT! I WAS SO UPSET I CAME TO SHORE TO GET SOME HELP BUT NO FEET.

YES, I FELT I HAD TO DO SOMETHING - AFTER ALL, MY PORPOISE PALS HAVE LIVED IN THE OCEAN FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS, BUT SINCE 1960 THEIR HERDS HAVE DWINDLED FROM THOUSANDS TO HUNDREDS! PEOPLE HAVE LEARNED SO MUCH FROM THE PORPOISE, I THINK IT'S TIME THEY REPAY A FAVOR.

SO YOU TURNED TO THE BOTTLE, EH?

SOUNDS FAIR. THINGS SHOULD BE KEPT BALANCED FOR SURE. BUT TELL ME MORE.

SOME PEOPLE STUDIED PORPOISES TO LEARN HOW THEY WORKED, THEN APPLIED THE KNOWLEDGE TO DEVELOP SONAR AND SUBMARINES FOR THE NAVY. THEY EVEN TRIED TO USE THE PORPOISES NATURAL ATTRACTION TO MAN AS A HOMING DEVICE!

OTHER PEOPLE LIVED AND TRIED TO TALK WITH THEM. RESEARCHERS LIKE DR. LILLY FOUND PORPOISES HAVE BRAINS AS LARGE & COMPLEX AS PEOPLE, AS REFINED A SYSTEM OF COMMUNICATION, AND A BETTER AUDITORY MEMORY -- YOU DON'T CRUISE AROUND THE OCEAN FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS WITHOUT DOING SOMETHING WITH YOUR HEAD. YOU KNOW, WE DON'T NEED TO WAIT FOR INTELLIGENT NON-HUMAN LIFE TO COME FROM THE STARS TO BEGIN COMMUNICATIONS-- IT'S HERE RIGHT NOW, AND WE ARE MAKING IT INTO PORPOISE PULP.

WHAT ELSE DID THEY DO?

THAT NAVY! THEY EVEN SPENT MILLIONS TRYING TO TURN THE FRISBEE INTO A WEAPON! BUT I HEAR PORPOISES HAD THE GOOD SENSE TO REFUSE TO PLAY KAMIKAZE FOR THEM WITH TORPEDOS STRAPPED TO THEIR BACKS!

IN TRYING TO TALK WITH PORPOISES, LILLY AND HIS FRIENDS FOUND THEY HAD TO USE COMPLEX MACHINERY TO EVEN BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND OR DUPLICATE PORPOISE LANGUAGE, BUT THE PORPOISES FAIRLY EASILY LEARN TO MAKE HUMAN SOUNDS. LILLY DECIDED HE HAD TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HIMSELF BEFORE HE COULD FATHOM PORPOISES. THEY HAVE IT SO TOGETHER THEY DON'T HAVE TO SHOW OFF ABOUT IT.

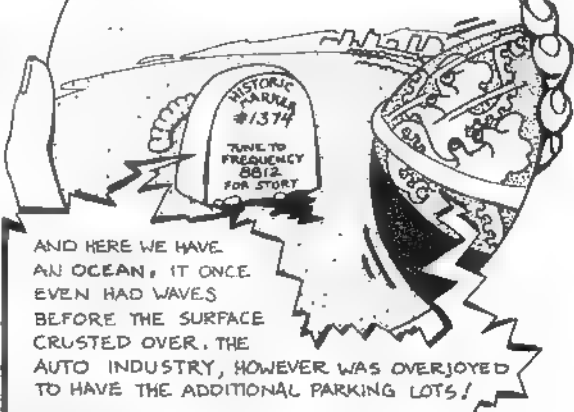
SOUNDS GREAT! WHERE DO I SIGN UP?



I DON'T THINK YOU WOULD WANT TO. IN THE NEXT 2 YEARS AS MANY AS HALF A MILLION PORPOISES WILL BE KILLED AND MANY, MANY MORE MUTILATED AND HASSLED OVER AND OVER. DON'T WANNA POP YOUR BUBBLE, BUT HERE - LOOK IN MINE ... SWEEPING IN ON ...



# A WAVE OF THE FUTURE!



AND HERE WE HAVE AN OCEAN. IT ONCE EVEN HAD WAVES BEFORE THE SURFACE CRUSTED OVER. THE AUTO INDUSTRY, HOWEVER WAS OVERJOYED TO HAVE THE ADDITIONAL PARKING LOTS!

WILL ALL THAT HAPPEN?

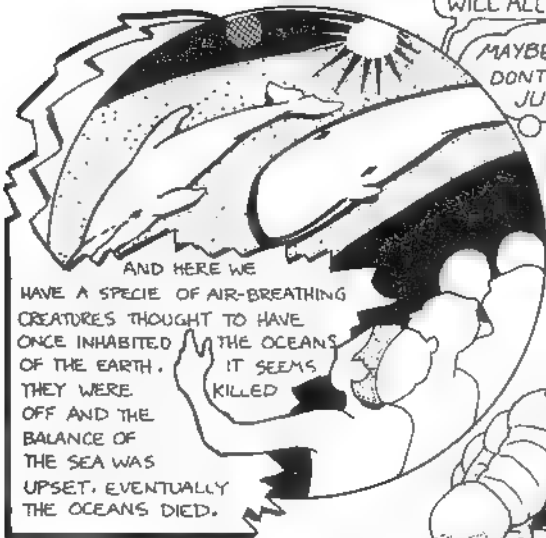
MAYBE - BUT BUBBLES DON'T SHOW, THEY JUST REFLECT!

I'LL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THAT ONE!

PEOPLE HAVE TO DO A LOT MORE THINKING ABOUT SPACEBUBBLE EARTH!

IT'S NOT A MACHINE THAT WORKS WITH A SPLASH OF OIL & A HAND ON THE THROTTLE. IT'S A WEB OF TINY SUPER CHARGED BLOBS OF WATER CLINGING TO A ROCK IN SPACE! EVERY LIVING THING IS HOOKED TO OTHER LIVING THINGS TO STAY ALIVE. THE SURFACE OF OUR BUBBLE IS THIS NETWORK OF LINKS.

AND HERE WE HAVE A SPECIE OF AIR-BREATHING CREATURES THOUGHT TO HAVE ONCE INHABITED THE OCEANS OF THE EARTH. THEY WERE OFF AND THE BALANCE OF THE SEA WAS UPSET. EVENTUALLY THE OCEANS DIED.



PEOPLE, OF COURSE, ARE PART OF THIS NETWORK OF LIFE RELATIONSHIPS. WE CLING TO LARGE PARTS OF IT FOR LIFE, YET USE TWO-THIRDS OF IT AS A SEWER OR SLAUGHTERHOUSE! TO POISON THE SMALLEST SEA LIFE & HUNT THE LARGEST WITH CANNON & NET IS TO SHING WITH FISTS, NOT HOLD WITH HANDS! THE TUNA INDUSTRY HAS NO IDEA OF HOW THIS OCEAN NET WORKS, BUT THEY'RE USING OUR MONEY & IGNORANCE TO GAMBLE ON WHAT IT TAKES TO KILL THIS CRUCIAL HANDHOLD ON OUR SPACEBUBBLE!

THE LONGER WE HOLD ONTO THIS SPACEBUBBLE, THE MORE WE LEARN ABOUT HOW ITS SURFACE IS LINKED TOGETHER AND THE RATE AT WHICH EACH LINK REPLENISHES. THE MORE YOU KNOW, THE LESS YOU TAKE! PEOPLE TAKE MUCH OF THE EARTH'S THE PORPOISE NEEDS LITTLE FROM THE SEA. TO KILL THIS LINK WITH THE WETTEST PART OF OUR SPACE-BUBBLE IS TO BLINDLY GOUGE AT ITS SURFACE! TO LET MACHINES DO OUR THINKING AND KILLING IS TO TEAR FASTER THAN WE THINK, AND IT TAKES NO FOOL TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO BUBBLES UNLESS YOU'RE CAREFUL...



IT'S GONE!

THAT IT COULD BE US! YOU SEE, THERE'S NO FUTURE IN NET PROFIT!

HERE-NOW LOOK AT THIS PRESENT BUBBLE, FILLED WITH THE HOT AIR OF PEOPLE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. THIS DEPARTMENT IS SUPPOSED TO PROTECT PORPOISES, BUT LOOK AT THIS GUY!

LOOKS BAD THERE. CAN'T ANYONE ELSE HELP?

CAN WE GET A SHOT OF YOU SHAKING HIS FLIPPER?

OOO'ICK! FIRST KISSING BABIES, NOW THIS!

WELL, THERE ARE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES...

HEY! HOW'LL WE TREAT THE PUBLIC THIS YEAR?

LIKE MUSHROOMS KEEP 'EM IN THE DARK AND FEED 'EM GARBAGE!

REPORT ON PORPOISE MORTALITY  
THE TUNA FISHING

HOW ABOUT BURYING THEM WITH THIS 50-PAGE REPORT? IF WE FIND A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM, WE MIGHT HAVE TO START WORKING AGAIN!

THERE OUGHTA BE A LAW!

THERE IS A LAW—THE MARINE MAMMALS PROTECTION ACT. BUT EXCEPT FOR ESKIMOS, ONLY THE TUNA INDUSTRY IS FREE TO IGNORE IT. AND AS LONG AS THE PUBLIC IGNORES PORPOISES, THE TUNA LOBBY IS FREE TO FEED THEIR LINE TO LEGISLATORS!

O.K.! I'LL FILE THIS "CONCERNED LETTER" IN THE "DEAD LETTER" BASKET!

AND THEN, THERE ARE SOME FILMS THEY TOOK (WITH TAXPAYERS' MONEY, OF COURSE):

GAWD—THAT'S DISGUSTING! THE PUBLIC WOULD NEVER TAKE IT!

GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO "LOSE" THIS FILM FOR A COUPLE YEARS!

THERE'S A LADY IN THE WHITE HOUSE I HEAR'S A GOOD EDITOR!

NOBODY CARES ABOUT SOME DEAD PORPOISES—BUT WHAT WOULD WEIGHT-WATCHERS DO WITHOUT THEIR TUNA SALADS?

DEAD PORPOISES KEEP THE TUNA INDUSTRY AFLOAT! IT'S THEM OR US!

OBVIOUSLY, PEOPLE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO SAVE THE PORPOISES, THE GOVERNMENT SURE IS NT!

IT LOOKS THAT WAY! AND A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T SEE THE WHOLE REFLECTION ON SPACEBUBBLE EARTH BECAUSE THEY'RE WATCHING THE TUBE!

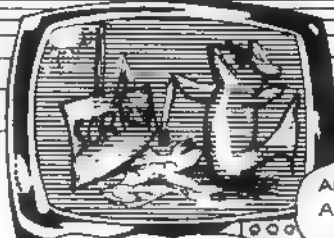
I GET YOUR DRIFT - AND FROM WHERE I STAND THE BREEZE SMELLS FISHY. ON ONE HAND YOU DELIGHT AT THE ANIMICS OF FLIPPER - THEN THE COMMERCIAL ...

... TRIES TO SELL YOU TUNA - AND YOU NEVER WONDER WHERE THE FLIPPER WENT! SELECTIVE PERCEPTION RECEPTION, MY DEAR. WHAT YOU NEVER...



HOW CUTE! I'D LIKE ONE FOR A PET!

HE'S REALLY SMART FOR A FISH!



AND GET ME ANOTHER BEER!

HEY, MOM - MAKE ME A TUNA SAMMICH!

...SEE, YOU NEVER THINK ABOUT AWARE CONSUMERS CATCH THE FACT, TWO, THAT STEAK IS AS GOOD A BUY AS TUNA. WELL, YOU SELL OUT A LOT OF SILVER FOR THAT TIN...

BUT IT'S THE PORPOISES WHO PAY MOST DEARLY. AN NO PILE OF PROFITS WILL BRING BACK A SINGLE PORPOISE!



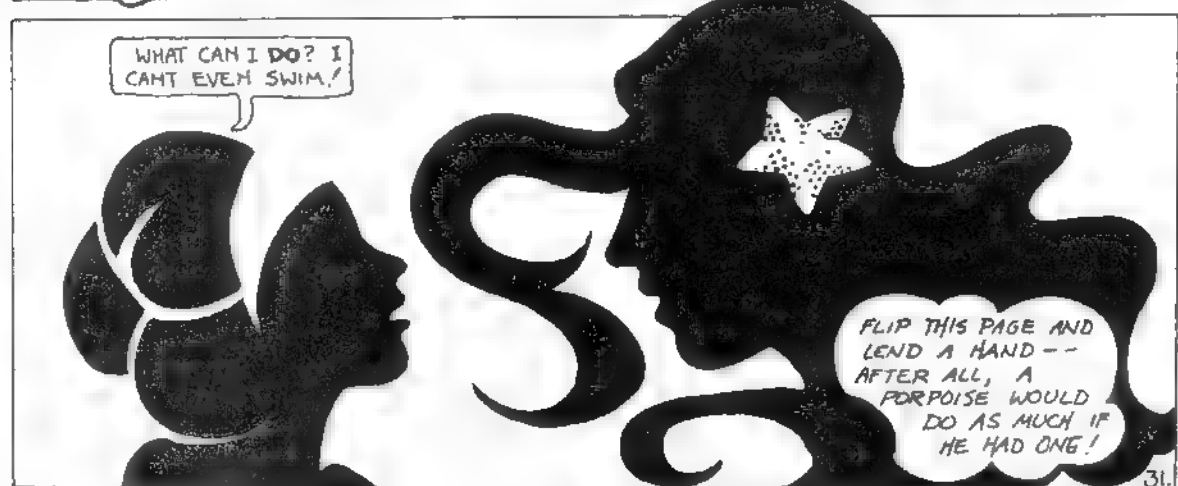
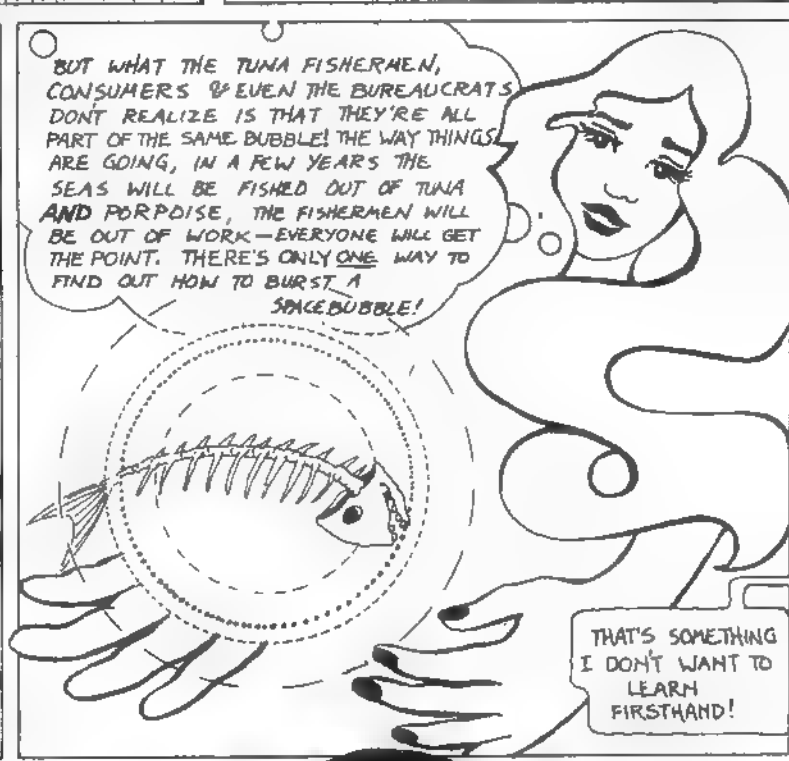
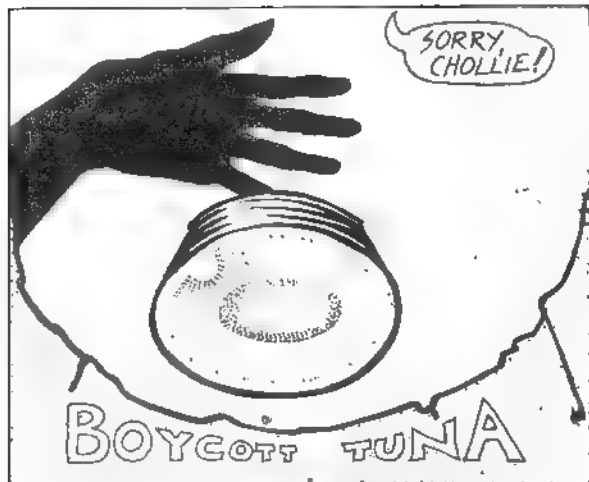
TUNA CLIPPERS ARE DESIGNED WITH NEW GEARS, SPECIAL NYLON PANELS IN THE NETS, AND OTHER TECHNIQUES TO LET SOME PORPOISES ESCAPE. ALL THIS SOUNDS IMPRESSIVE ON THE NEWS - BUT, WHEN NO ONE BUT ME IS WATCHING, OFTEN AS NOT THEY AREN'T USED! THEY TAKE MORE TIME - AND YOU KNOW WHAT TIME EQUALS FOR BIG BUSINESS!

BESIDES, THEY'RE LETTING THE TUNA BOATS FISH WITHOUT THE NEW NETS, ANYWAY - BECAUSE OF THE NYLON SHORTAGE. (YOU'LL NOTICE THEY HAVE PLENTY OF FUEL.)

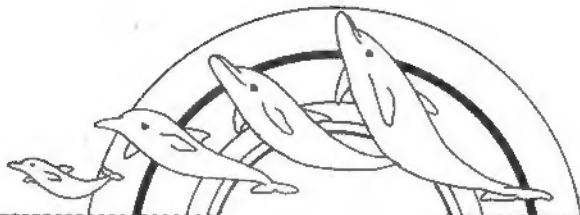


EVERYBODY SEEMS TO BE SHORT ON RESULTS AND LONG ON WIND! BUT ACTIONS STILL SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS...

SO...







1

WRITE THE TUNA COMPANIES AND ASK THEM WHAT THEY ARE DOING ABOUT THE PORPOISE PROBLEM. **DON'T** SETTLE FOR SYMPATHETIC LETTERS & XEROXED EXCUSES. **DEMAND LIVE PORPOISES!** (BUT BE PREPARED FOR FISHY ANSWERS.) AND REMEMBER, CHICKEN, EGG AND PEANUT BUTTER MAKE GOOD SANDWICHES, TOO!

SOME COMPANIES TO WRITE ARE:

\* STARKIST FOODS, INC.  
TERMINAL ISLAND  
CALIF. 90731

\* VAN CAMP SEA FOOD CO.  
(DIV. OF RALSTON PURINA)  
772 TUNA STREET  
TERMINAL IS. CALIF. 90731

\* BUMBLE BEE SEAFOODS  
ASTORIA ORE. 97103

2

THEN, WRITE THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND TELL HIM YOU WON'T TRADE PORPOISES FOR PROFIT. EITHER THE **MARINE MAMMALS PROTECTION ACT** DOES ITS JOB, OR HE'S ON THE HOOK!

\* THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
DEPT. OF COMMERCE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230

3

SEND THESE COUPONS (OR A COPY)

AND PUT THIS COMIC BOOK IN A BOTTLE —  
MAYBE A TUNA FISHERMAN WILL  
GET THE MESSAGE!

### PROJECT JONAH

BOX 476  
BOLINAS, CALIFORNIA 94924

- ☐ YES! I WANT TO BE MORE PORPOISEFUL.
- ☐ I HAVE SENT LETTERS TO THE TUNA COMPANIES AND GOVERNMENT.
- ☐ I WOULD LIKE MORE INFO. ON YOUR CAMPAIGN TO SAVE WHALES AND PORPOISES.
- ☐ ENCLOSED IS MY TAX-DEDUCTABLE DONATION OF \$\_\_\_\_\_ TO HELP

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS (with ZIP) \_\_\_\_\_

### ORDER MORE ORDER MORE ORDER

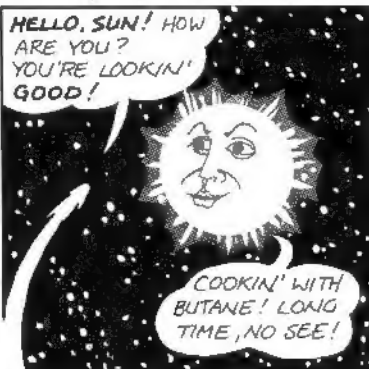
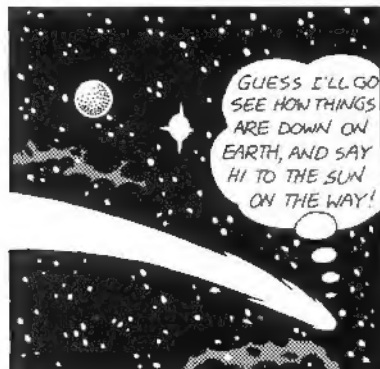
from PROJECT JONAH, Box 476,  
BOLINAS, CA. 94924

- ☐ PLEASE SEND \_\_\_\_\_ COPIES OF **NET PROFIT @ \$1 EACH.** (INCLUDES POSTAGE AND HANDLING)
- ☐ ENCLOSED FIND CHECK OR M.O. FOR \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ SEND MORE INFO. ON **ECOMIX!**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
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➡ BULK ORDERS INVITED. INQUIRE FOR RATES.

# WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO COMET KOHOUTEK



THE END







**Sir Real's**

**UNDERGROUND  
COMIX CLASSIX**

## **Net Profit**

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- 2 - Porpoises
- 3 - Once Upon A Time...
- 6 - Tale of Te-Whare
- 7 - Opo, The People's Porpoise
- 8 - Now Imagine You Are A Porpoise
- 20 - How I Became A Horrible Porpoise-Killing  
Monster
- 28 - Something Fishy
- 34 - Project Jonah
- 35 - What Really Happened To Comet Kohoutek

### **Artists:**

Michael J. Becker - 1-27, 36  
Shelby Sampson - 28-35

### **Comments:**

Created as part of an international effort to save the whales and dolphins, primarily from the tuna industry.